

## **Remarks**

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed June 18, 2007. All citations made to paragraph numbers found in this Reply will be made to the Application as *published*.

### **I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections**

Prior to the Office Action mailed June 18, 2007, Claims 1-11 were pending in the Application. In the Office Action, Claims 1, 5 and 9-11 were objected to because of various informalities. Claims 1-5 and 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shimizu et al. (US Patent 6,374,271 B1) (hereinafter Shimizu). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu in view of Scheier et al. (USPA Pub 2004/0151403) (hereinafter Scheier).

### **II. Summary of Applicant's Amendments**

The present Reply amends Claims 1, 2, 7-11; cancels Claim 5; and adds Claims 12-18 all as shown above.

Support for the language added to the amended claims can be found in ¶¶ 138-150 of the published application (US 2005/0071736) (hereinafter referred to as Application) and in figures 14-17.

Support for Claim 12 can be found in ¶ 143; support for Claim 13 can be found in ¶ 141; support for Claim 14 can be found in ¶ 144; support for Claim 15 can be found in ¶ 149; support for Claim 16 can be found in ¶ 149 and Fig. 17; support for Claim 17 can be found in ¶ 149 and Fig. 17; and support for Claim 18 can be found in ¶¶ 138-150 of the Application.

Applicant respectfully reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented or canceled claims in a continuing or future application.

### **III. Claim Objections**

Claims 1, 5 and 9-11 were objected to because of various informalities. Claims 1 and 9-11 have all been amended to eliminate the informalities referenced in the Office Action as

shown above. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended are not objectionable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **IV. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Claims 1-5 and 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shimizu.

##### **Claim 1**

Claim 1 has been amended by the current Reply to more clearly define the embodiment therein. As amended Claim 1 defines:

1. A method for configuring media file properties for a digital document using a media configuration tool, comprising:
  - providing at least one workspace for configuring programs, wherein the at least one workspace includes a plurality of program slots, wherein said program slots include at least one program and each said program includes one or more program properties; and
  - configuring the at least one program using said media configuration tool, said media configuration tool including a collection of tools capable of searching for, retrieving, importing, configuring and managing said one or more program properties included in the at least one program.

Applicant's invention embodied in Claim 1 describes a method for configuring media file properties for a digital document using a media configuration tool. The method includes providing at least one workspace for configuring programs, at least one workspace including program slots which includes at least one program, each program further including one or more program properties. A program is then configured using a media configuration tool. The media configuration tool being a collection of tools capable of searching, retrieving, importing, configuring and managing the properties included in the program. See Application, ¶ 138.

Shimizu discloses a hypermedia authoring system that enables an author to generate a document using a goals outline and a presentation outline. The goals outline organizes the information content of the document contained in cards in a logical structure while the presentation outline is directed to a physical appearance of the document. Shimizu, 1:43-50.

The hypermedia authoring system can display the goals outline or the presentation outline in the form of Bento-boxes. Shimizu, Fig. 8. The author uses the display shown in Fig. 8 to link each of the slot types of the instantiated document prototype to a specific card, thus connecting information content of a card to a specific goals outline element. By using the goals outline display, an author generates the goals outline and connects each element in the goals outline with the hypermedia information in a logical structure. Shimizu, 6:29-36.

Applicant respectfully submits that Shimizu does not anticipate Applicant's invention embodied in Claim 1. As set forth above, it appears that Shimizu generates documents by using outlines that link cards containing various program properties (e.g., video, sound or text files). These cards are contained on a database, the cards having been created outside of the Shimizu system. The user can edit the content of the document by editing the links within the document's outline. See Shimizu 6:30-37. In order to create these links, it appears as though the user must manually browse a database to locate the desired card to be linked to the document. See Shimizu 6:38-40. Because of the lack of tools capable of streamlining the process, Shimizu's system of editing a document can disadvantageous when compared to Applicant's invention, especially if there are a great number of cards located on a multiplicity of databases.

Applicant's invention embodied in Claim 1 is distinguishable from Shimizu as it provides the user with tools capable of searching, retrieving, importing, configuring and managing media, content, properties and settings for the digital document. See Application, ¶ 138. For example, a person may wish to include pictures containing a professor in the document. Using Applicant's invention embodied in Claim 1, a search tool can be used to locate all pictures containing a picture of a professor from a media source. The pictures can then be imported and configured to a program using an import tool and a configuring tool. See Application, ¶¶ 138-144, 149, Figs. 14 and 16. On the other hand, when using the Shimizu system, the person would have to manually browse a database (or several databases) to locate all cards including a picture of a professor. The person would then have to create individual links between the card and the document outline.

In view of the comments provided above, Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiment defined by Claim 1 is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited reference, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **Claims 9-11**

Claims 9-11 identify three types of media configuration tools which may be included in the auxiliary workspace. As set forth above, Shimizu does not appear to disclose the use of media configuration tools, much less disclose the use of a media search tool, a scene configuration tool or a slide configuration tool.

With respect to Claim 9, Shimizu appears to allow the user to manually browse a database to search for the cards to be linked to the document. See Shimizu, 6:38-40. However, allowing the user to manually browse a database is distinguishable from providing a media search tool to facilitate the search process.

With respect to Claim 10, Shimizu appears to allow the user to manually create links between cards to configure a document containing a scene. However, once again, all links are created manually and no tool is provided to facilitate the process of configuring scene settings. For example, a scene configuration tool may allow a user to directly configure the start time and end time of a scene during document playback as opposed to having the user link a document to a preexisting card which includes the same information. See e.g., Application, ¶¶ 140, 175, 247-250.

Similarly, with respect to Claim 11, Shimizu appears to only allow the user to manually create links between programs. Shimizu does not appear to provide the user with a slide configuration tool which helps to configure a slide show of programs. For example, a slide configuration tool may allow a user to directly configure a time interval at which a new image should be presented as opposed to having the user link a document to a preexisting card which is then used to configure a slide show of programs. See e.g., Application, ¶¶ 140, 252-255.

In view of the comments provided above, Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiments defined by Claim 9-11 are neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited reference, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

### Claims 2-4 and 6-8

Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are not addressed separately but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim and further in view of the amendments to the independent claim, and the comments provided above. Applicant respectfully submits that these Claims are similarly neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. It is also submitted that these claims also add their own limitations which render them patentable in their own right. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to argue these limitations should it become necessary in the future.

### Claims 15-18

Newly added Claim 15-18 will be discussed briefly in an effort to facilitate the prosecution process.

It is noted that the Shimizu system shows an authoring system which uses outlines linked to cards in a database to create documents. The cards in the card database are information elements on which the document being authored is based. That is, the cards contain the actual hypermedia information such as video, sound or text that make up the document. The contents of the points may be appropriated from either external sources or created from scratch by the author. See Shimizu, 3:31-45. Accordingly, a user can change the appearance of the overall document by changing the links between the cards using the Shimizu system. Nevertheless, the Shimizu system does not appear to be capable of configuring the program properties on the cards using the system. In other words, in order to edit the program properties of a document (the elements on the cards), the user must either create a new card or edit a preexisting card. Consequently, the user must go *outside* the Shimizu system to edit the program properties, save the card to a database, go back to the system, and then use the system to provide a link to the new or edited card containing the program properties.

Applicant's invention embodied in Claims 15-18 includes a method for configuring program properties for a digital document using a property editor tool, wherein the property editor tool is capable of *configuring the program properties included in a given program*. Thus, Applicant's invention embodied in Claim 15-18 allows the user to configure program properties

without having to locate preexisting program cards; create and/or edit individual program cards; or create links to preexisting program cards. By relying on the use of preexisting cards in a card database, Shimizu does not appear to disclose – and even teaches away from – Applicant's method of using a property editor tool to allow the user to directly configure program properties of a selected program.

In view of the comments provided above, Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiments defined by Claims 15-18 are neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited reference, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **V. Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu in view of Scheier.

It is respectfully submitted that Claim 6 is allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim and further in view of the amendments and comments to Claim 1 provided above, which are hereby incorporated by reference. Applicant respectfully submits that this Claim is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. It is also submitted that this claim also adds its own limitations which renders it patentable in its own right. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to argue these limitations should it become necessary in the future.

#### **VI. Conclusion**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent applications should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of the patent.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this reply, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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